

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/826,201

Examiner

Javid A. Amini

Applicant(s)

SANTOS, SHEILA MARIE

Art Unit

2628

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/18/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11, 13, 15-29, 31 and 32.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jason Feldmar on 1/4/2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 11.

A method for manipulating an image transformation over time, comprising:

- (a) selecting a source image from a first frame of a video clip;
- (b) selecting a destination image, that the source image will transform into, from a second frame of the video clip;
- (c) accepting input from a user for adjusting a coarseness of a lattice structure, wherein:
 - (i) the coarseness of the lattice structure controls an accuracy for performing a transformation from the source image to the destination image; and
 - (ii) the coarseness of the lattice structure determines how sample points on the source image and the destination image are manipulated with respect to each other during the transformation; and
 - (d) performing the transformation of the source image to the destination image in accordance with the coarseness of the lattice structure; wherein the input from the user may animate the lattice structure by adjusting the coarseness of a lattice structure to different settings over time.

Claim 12 is cancelled.

Claim 13.

A method for manipulating an image transformation over time, comprising:

selecting a source image from a first frame of a video clip; selecting a destination image, that the source image will transform into, from a second frame of the video clip;

mapping a first sample point from the source image to a second sample point on the destination image;

manipulating a transformation of the source image to the destination image by manipulating the mapping;

wherein the manipulating comprises modifying the mapping from a first sample point on the source image to a third sample point on the destination image.

Claim 14 is cancelled.

Claim 29.

An apparatus for manipulating an image transformation over time in a computer system comprising:

(a) a computer having a memory;

(b) a video editing application executing on the computer, wherein the video editing application is configured to:

(i) select a source image from a first frame of a video clip;

(ii) select a destination image, that the source image will transform into, from a second frame of the video clip;

(iii) map a first sample point from the source image to a second sample point on the destination image;

(iv) manipulate a transformation of the source image to the destination image by manipulating the mapping; wherein the manipulating comprises modifying the mapping

from a first sample point on the source image to a third sample point on the destination image.

Claim 30 is cancelled.

The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: a new set of drawings (figures 1-9). In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-11, 13, 15-29, and 31-32 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior art, either singularly or in combination, teach or fairly suggest a source image is selected from a first frame of a video clip, a destination image, that the source image will transform into, is selected from a second frame of the video clip, a first animation axis that defines a first two-dimensional transformation of the source image in the video clip over time is determined, a second animation axis that defines a second two-dimensional transformation of the destination image in the video clip over time is determined, and manipulating a metamorphosis of the source image to the destination image by a user manipulating the second axis, as recited in the independent claims 1 and 17; or in figs. 5A-5E illustrate (see the attached figures 5A-5E in this Office Action) the affect of a lattice structure having various levels of coarseness/subdivisions when attempting to perform the warping operation described with respect to fig. 2. The number of subdivisions increases progressively from fig. 5A to 5E. As illustrated in fig. 5A, the lattice structure is very coarse. Accordingly, when the warp is applied,

the source spline 202 is unable to morph very noticeably to the destination spline 204. In fig. 5B, the lattice structure is finer than that in fig. 5A, as claimed in the independent claims 11, and 27, or in fig. 6C (see the attached figures 6A-6D in this Office Action) illustrates how a user may change the correspondence between the source spline 602 and destination spline 604 from that established in fig. 6A. As illustrated, the sample points on the source spline 602 are mapped to completely different points on the destination spline 604, fig. 6D illustrates the application of the warp operation based on the new correspondence of fig. 6C. As illustrated merely changing the correspondence alters the warp such that the eye now appears to twist. Additionally, the user can adjust the tangents to modify the warp affect, as claimed in independent claims 13 and 29.

The dependent claims 2-10, 15-16, 18-26, 28, and 31-32 are allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javid A. Amini whose telephone number is 571-272-7654. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kee Tung can be reached on 571-272-7794. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Javid A Amini
Examiner
Art Unit 2628

J.A.

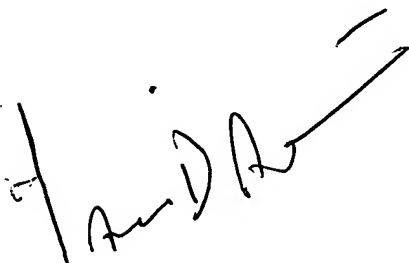
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Javid Amini', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

FIG. 1

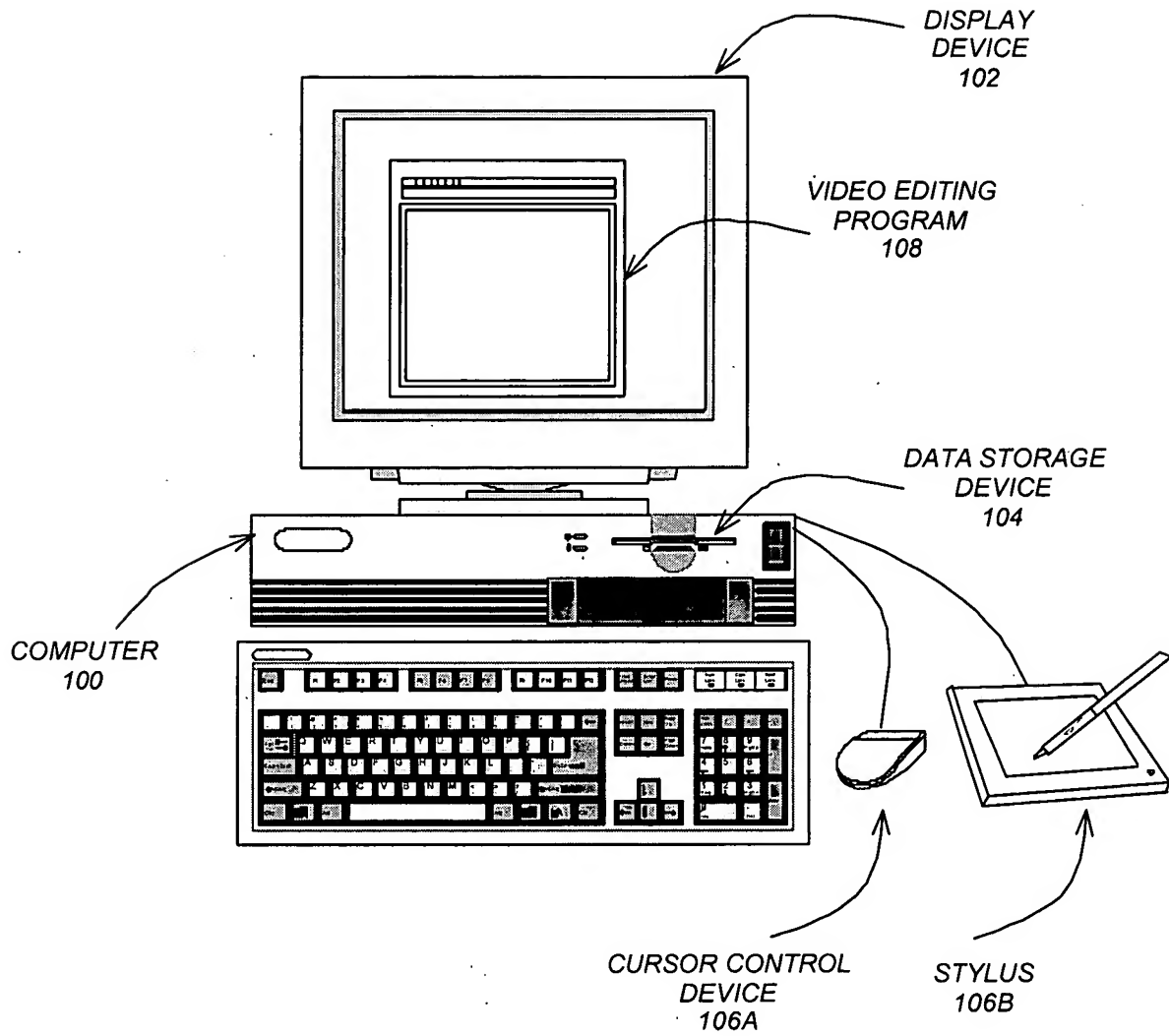


FIG. 2

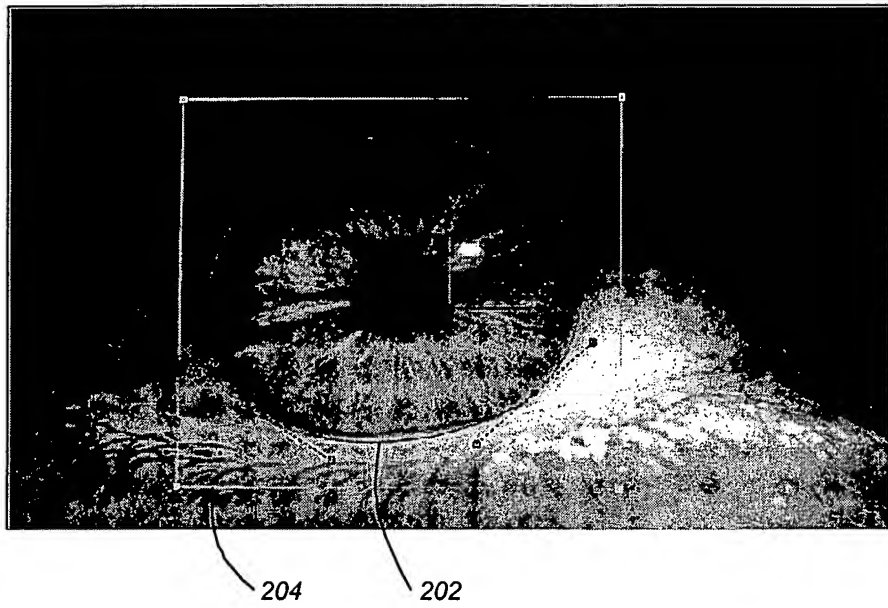


FIG. 5E

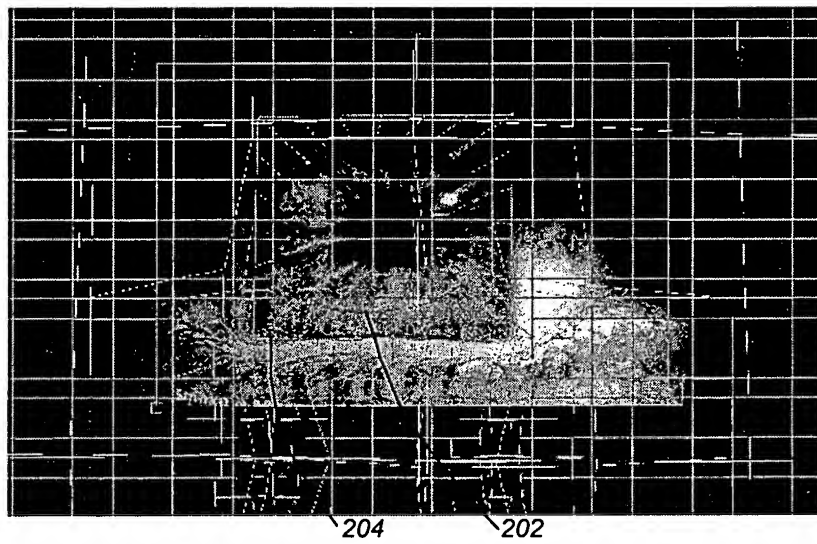


FIG. 3

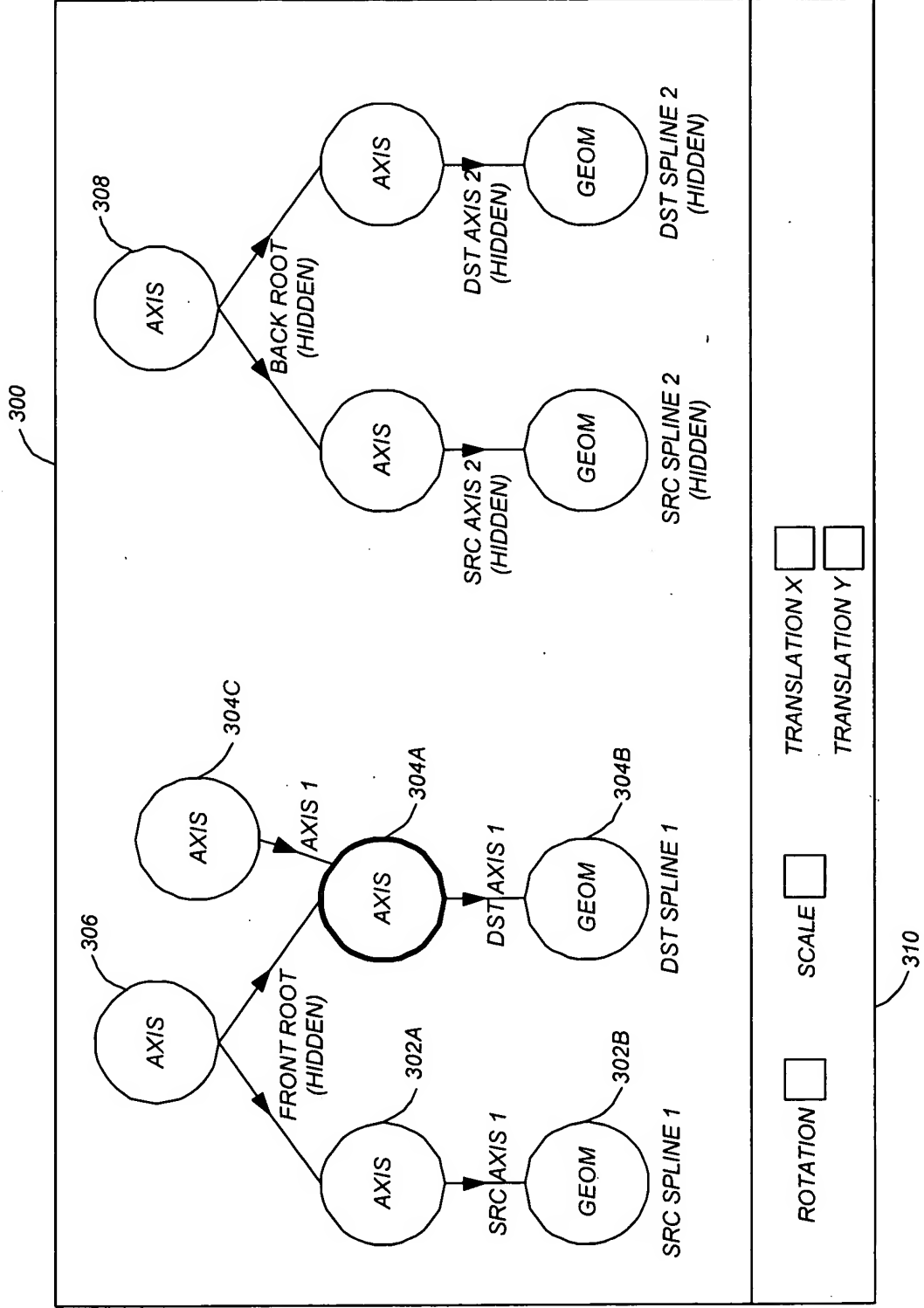


FIG. 4A

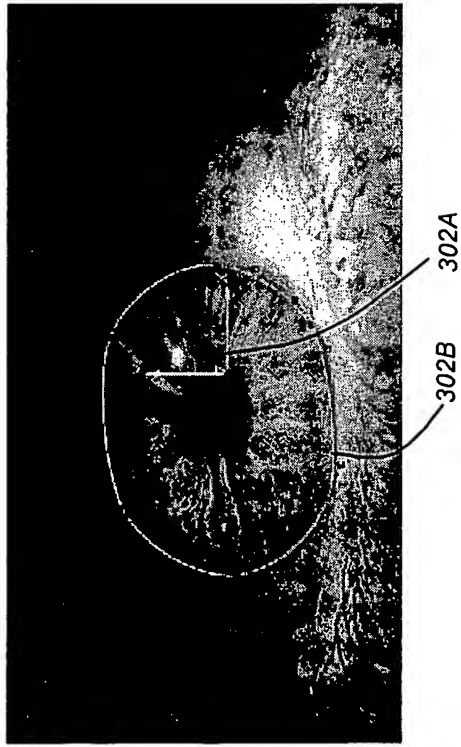


FIG. 4B

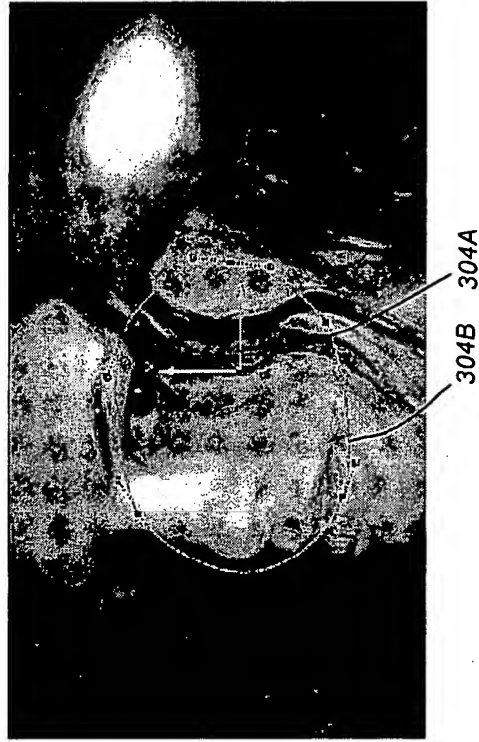


FIG. 4C

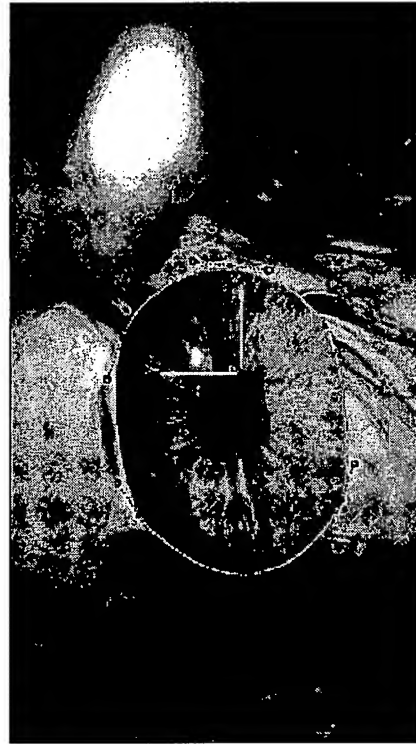


FIG. 4D



FIG. 4E



FIG. 4F



FIG. 4G



FIG. 4H



FIG. 4I



FIG. 4J

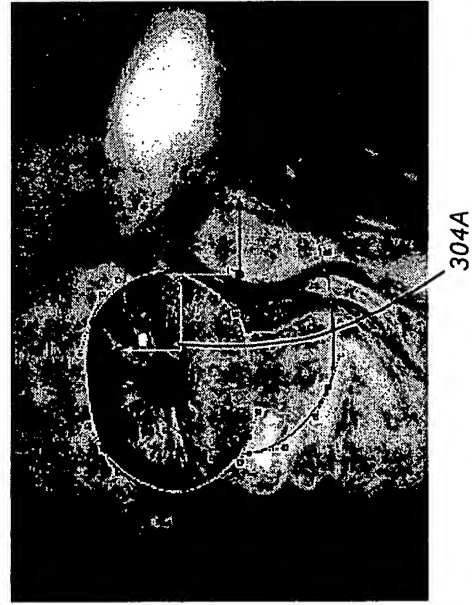


FIG. 4K

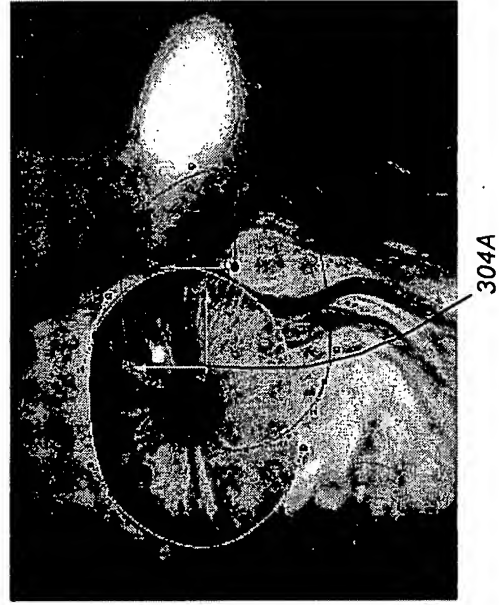


FIG. 5A

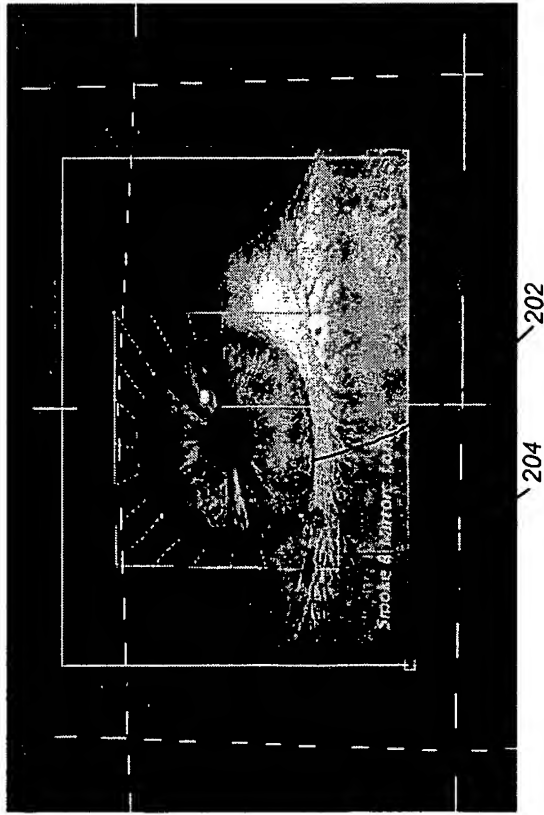


FIG. 5B

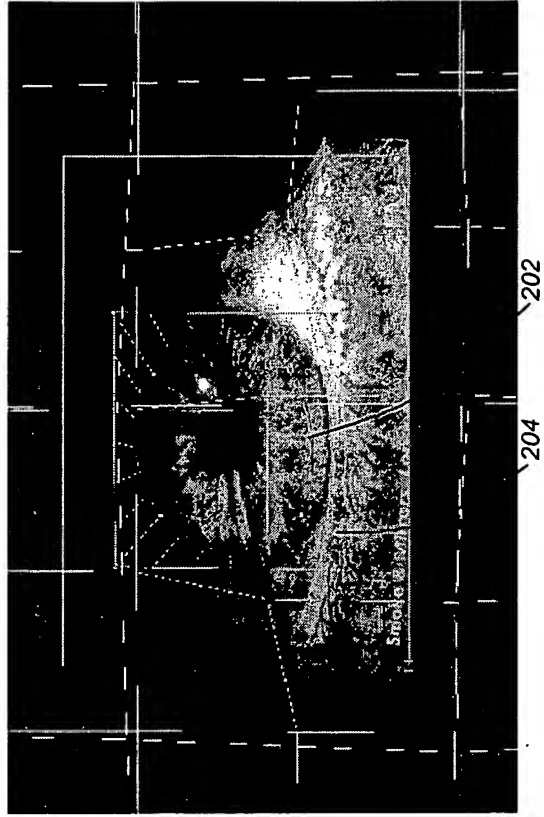


FIG. 5C

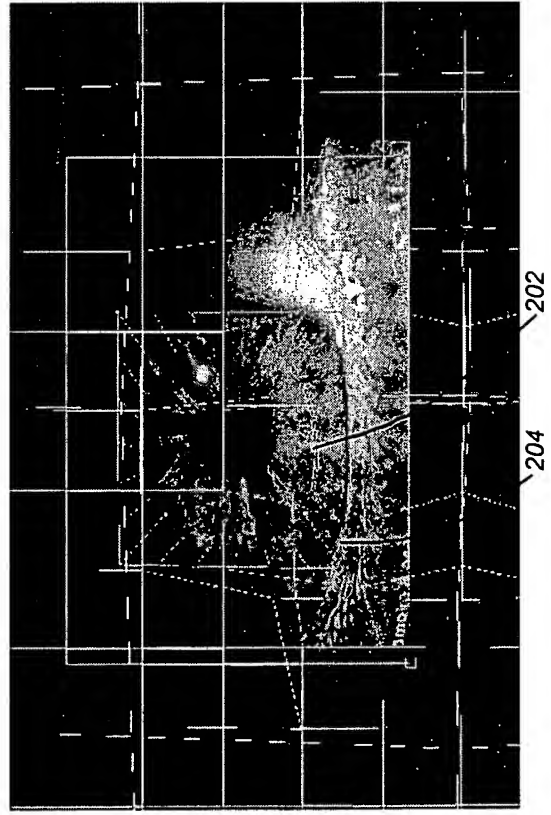


FIG. 5D

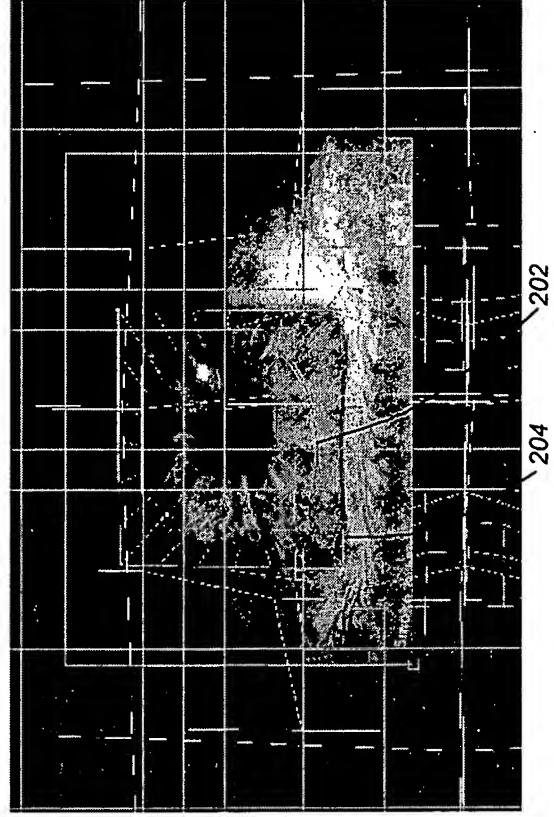


FIG. 6A

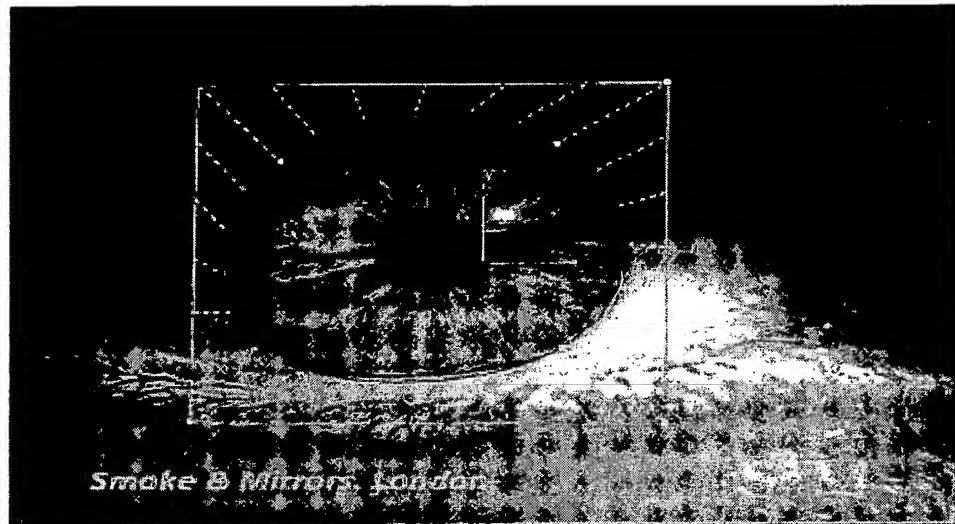


FIG. 6B

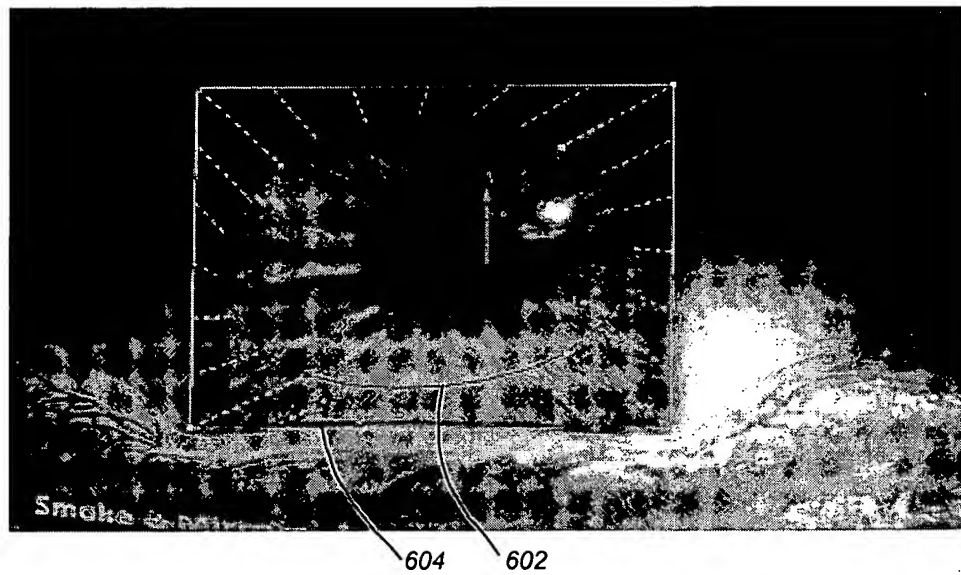


FIG. 6C

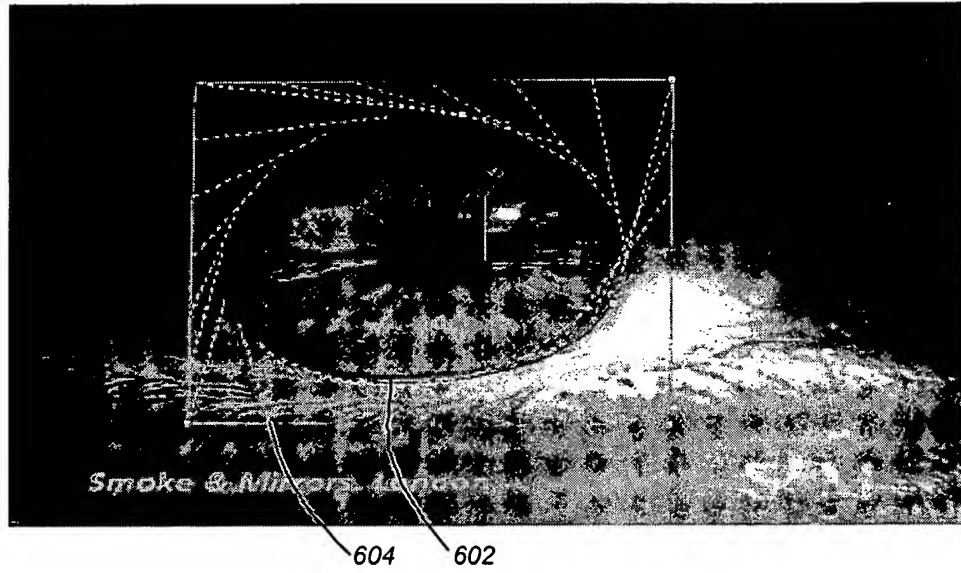


FIG. 6D

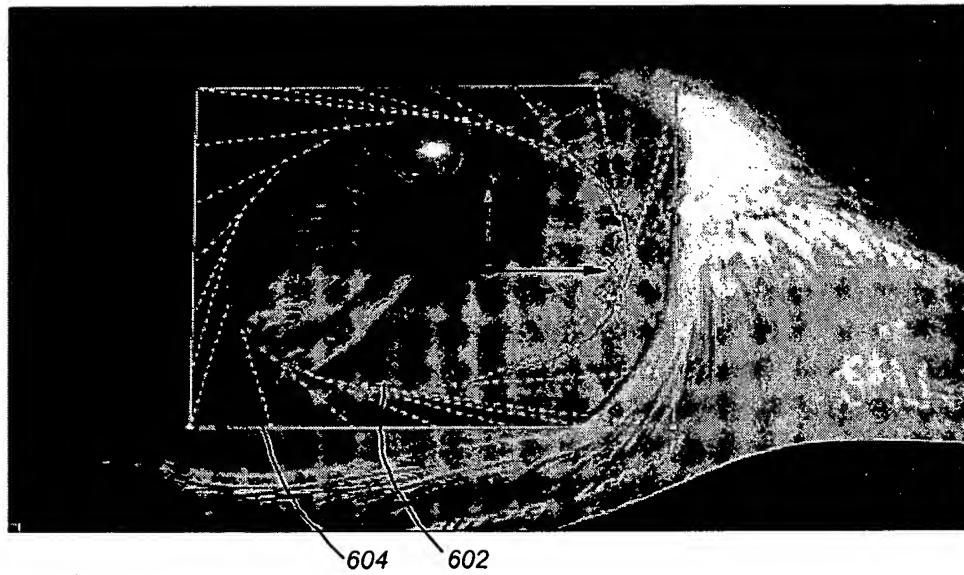


FIG. 7

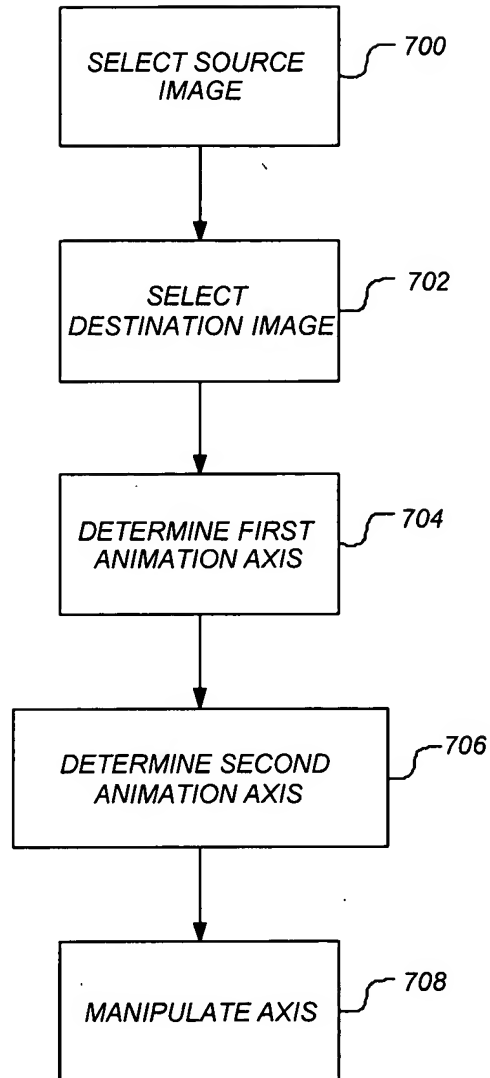


FIG. 8

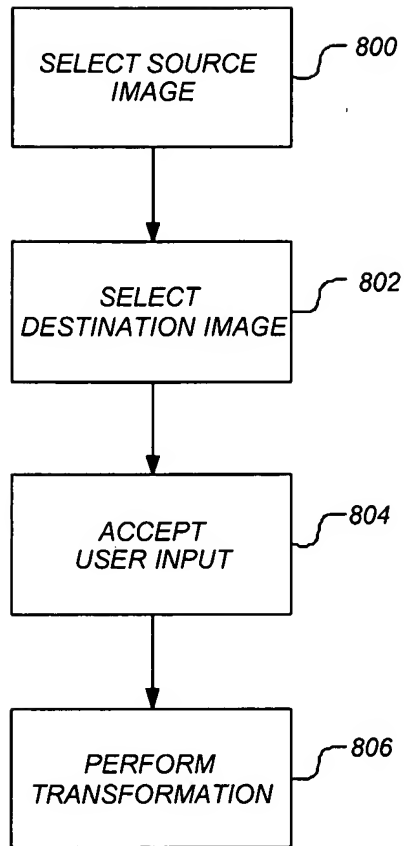


FIG. 9

